

U.S. Patent Appl. Ser. No. 10/731,767
Amendment Filed in Response to
Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment
dated 11/30/05

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Amendments to the Claims

Please amend the claims to read as follows:

1-10 (Cancelled)

11. (New) A composite comprising:

a reinforcing layer providing tear resistance;

a composite sheet laminated to said reinforcing layer;

said composite sheet comprising, an impermeable film substantially impermeable to liquid water, and at least one outer layer laminated to said impermeable film, said outer layer protecting said impermeable film from abrasion;

said reinforcing layer and said impermeable film and said outer layer being laminated together to form said composite; and

each of said reinforcing layer and said impermeable film and said outer layer being substantially water vapor permeable while being laminated together, such that said composite is substantially water vapor permeable throughout.

12. (New) The composite as in claim 11, wherein said outer layer comprises, an outer layer of fibers.

13. (New) The composite as recited in claim 11, further comprising, another outer layer protecting said impermeable film from abrasion; and

said impermeable film being laminated between said first and said second outer layers.

14. (New) The composite as in claim 11, wherein said outer layer comprises, a polyester nonwoven material.

15. (New) The composite as recited in claim 11, wherein the composite has a weight of about 100-200 grams/square meter.

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16. (New) The composite as recited in claim 11, wherein said reinforcing layer comprises, a polyester resin.

17. (New) The composite as recited in claim 11, wherein said outer layer comprises a first polyester nonwoven material, and further comprising, a second polyester nonwoven material, said reinforcing layer and said impermeable film being laminated between said first and said second polyester nonwoven materials.

18. (New) The composite as recited in claim 11, having an ASTM D3833 water vapor transmission rate of greater than 250 g/m²/day.

19. (New) The composite as recited in claim 11, wherein the composite has an areal weight of less than about 200 grams/square meter.

20. (New) The composite as recited in claim 19, wherein said outer layer comprises a first polyester nonwoven material, and further comprising, a second polyester nonwoven material, said reinforcing layer and said impermeable film being laminated between said first and said second polyester nonwoven materials.

21. (New) The composite as recited in claim 11, wherein the composite is used in a combination with a roofing or siding material.

22. (New) The composite as recited in claim 11, wherein the composite is configured into a garment.

23. (New) The composite as recited in claim 11, wherein the outer layer is spunbond, thermal point-bonded, hydraulically entangled, ultrasonically bonded, chemically bonded, or a combination thereof.

24. (New) The composite as recited in claim 11, wherein the reinforcing layer contains a polymer coating.

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25. (New) The composite as recited in claim 24, further comprising: a polymer-active flame retardant in said coating.

26. (New) The composite as recited in claim 11, wherein the composite has an areal weight less than about 200 grams/square meter.

27. (New) The composite as recited in claim 11, wherein said reinforcing layer is coated with a polymer selected from the group comprising: a polyvinyl chloride polymer or copolymer, a polyurethane polymer or copolymer, an acrylic polymer or copolymer, a styrene-acrylic acid copolymer, a vinylidene chloride copolymer, and blends thereof.

28. (New) The composite as recited in claim 11, further comprising: a coating on the reinforcing layer to reduce water wicking and unraveling at a cut edge of the reinforcing layer.

29. (New) The composite as recited in claim 28, further comprising: a polymer-active flame retardant in said coating.

30. (New) A composite comprising:
an impermeable film substantially impermeable to liquid water;
said impermeable film being laminated together with two outer layers, the two outer layers protecting the impermeable film from abrasion;
a reinforcing layer providing tear resistance;
said impermeable film and said two outer layers and said reinforcing layer being laminated together to form said composite; and
each of said impermeable film and said two outer layers and said reinforcing layer being substantially water vapor permeable while being laminated together, such that said composite is substantially water vapor permeable throughout.